

SmartNotice Parent Notification System

One way the Anchorage Board of Education supports school/parent communication is through the purchase of SmartNotice, an emergency parent notification system. SmartNotice allows all members of the Anchorage Public School community to be instantly notified via text message, e-mail, and/or voice message of real-time situations as they are developing. This is a great service to our families!

SmartNotice provides an added optional feature which allows families to select to receive automated severe weather related alerts. These alerts are only sent to families who have enrolled in the additional service and are directly in the path of the storm. Families that select to receive the weather warnings have the option to select the types of warnings that they will receive. To see a video with more detailed information, please visit the following website: <http://ecnetwork.com/codered-weather/how-it-works.php>.

In order to receive alerts for this upcoming school year, all new families and families that have not previously registered for SmartNotice alerts will need to complete the SmartNotice registration process. There are no student identification numbers needed to register and the entire process can be completed in less than 2 minutes. Below, you will find directions for the registration process as well as answers to frequently asked questions.

SmartNotice Parent Notification System Registration Directions

FAQs

How do I register?: Please email Judy Link at judy.link@anchorage.kyschools.us to receive a the web address for the unique registration site for Anchorage Public School. (This is a unique registration site for Anchorage Public School and should only be used by Anchorage Public School students and their family members/caregivers. Please do not post this web address on social media pages.)

1. Complete the onscreen prompts, entering information such as your name, email address, phone number, cell phone carrier if applicable, and password. As you complete this process please note the following:
 - a. The password you create must be alphanumeric, at least 8 characters and must contain at least one letter and one number.
 - b. You will be asked to select a "group". You should select the group corresponding to the year your youngest enrolled child will graduate from APS. Join only one group per family. At the end of each school year users enrolled in the student class group that just graduated will be deleted. A chart of 2015-2016 school year grades and corresponding APS graduation years is provided for your convenience.

2015-2016 Grade Level	SmartNotice Enrollment Group
8 th grade	Class of 2016
7 th grade	Class of 2017
6 th grade	Class of 2018
5 th grade	Class of 2019
4 th grade	Class of 2020
3 rd grade	Class of 2021
2 nd grade	Class of 2022
1 st grade	Class of 2023
Kindergarten	Class of 2024

Join the group corresponding to your youngest enrolled child. Only enroll in one group per family.

- c. The weather service alerts are an optional feature. These are managed by ECN and not by Anchorage Independent School District. The weather alerts are tied to the location address you enter upon registration and not to the school address. If you register to receive weather alerts and later change your mind you are able to log back into your account to change your personal settings and preferences.

When will the system be used?

There are three basic scenarios:

- Emergency - For example if there were a chemical leak, gas leak or lock-down, you would receive a message detailing the situation. Follow-up messages could be sent with more detailed information as the situation develops.
- School Delay/Cancellation Notifications - Early dismissal, delayed arrival, and school cancellations due to weather.
- Community News – Community related emergency announcements impacting Anchorage Public School.

Please keep in mind however, if you register to receive weather related alerts, you will additionally receive messages when severe weather, in the categories you selected (flash flood, severe thunderstorm, tornado, and/or winter storm) is forecasted for the immediate area of your registered home address. These weather warning alerts are not sent by Anchorage Public School but rather are managed by ECN, the provider of SmartNotice.

How will I receive alerts?

When you register, you can choose to receive alerts via text message, phone call (cell or landline) and e-mail. The system is so flexible that you may even choose different ways to receive different types of messages. You may also choose which type of alerts to receive.

What will it cost to receive messages?

The Anchorage Independent School District is paying for this service. The only cost to parents is the charge from your cell phone carrier for the receipt of a text message or e-mail if you are not on an unlimited text and data plan.

Can anyone other than parents/guardians receive alerts?

Yes. The decision is yours. You may choose to have grandparents, non-custodial parent, or other caregivers register. In order for someone to register they just need the Anchorage School District SmartNotice registration web address which can be obtained from Judy Link at judy.link@anchorage.kyschools.us. Each registrant may choose which type of alerts to receive.

My family does not use text messaging, e-mail or Internet. Can we still receive emergency alerts?

Yes, you may receive alerts over a regular landline phone. However, if you do not have a valid e-mail account, you will need assistance with registration. If that is the case, please contact Judy Link to ask for assistance and an Anchorage staff member will contact you to assist with registration.

I have more than one child at Anchorage Public School; do I have to register for each?

No, register in the group that represents the APS graduating class of your **youngest child**. This will keep your family in the system as long as you have a child at APS.

Is my family required to use the SmartNotice alert system to keep informed?

No, you will have traditional information sources such as radio and television available for school closings and we will continue to send you our regular newsletters and email updates from school. Using this service is your choice and you may opt out at any time. There are some messages however, regarding items such as road closures that are only distributed through the SmartNotice system. Remember, it is designed primarily for instant communication directly to you; and, in the case of emergency, will provide you with information pertinent to a situation impacting your child at APS.

Thank you for participating with SmartNotice.

Now that you have created an account and selected enrollment options you will begin receiving alerts from Anchorage Public School. If you enrolled for the weather warning service you will additionally receive those alerts from ECN for your registered location address. Please keep your username and password information as you have the option to login to the system and change your settings at any time.

If you have trouble registering, please contact Judy Link at (502) 245-8927 or judy.link@anchorage.kyschools.us for assistance.